

Montana and the sky

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Department of Transportation - Aeronautics Division

Vol. 43, No. 8

August 1992

Montana Aeronautics Board Meets

A meeting of the Montana Aeronautics Board was held July 13 at the Yellowstone Airport.

The Board approved \$1,000 preliminary engineering grants for the communities of Dillon, Lewistown, and Sidney.

George Walker, Deputy Director, Department of Transportation reported that the Board's legislative proposal to increase by 2¢ per gallon the aviation fuel tax was disapproved by the Governor. He added that the denial was due to the legislation including an increase and not because of the merit of the proposal. The Board may seek a legislative sponsor and introduce the legislation separate

from the administration legislative bills.

Mike Ferguson reported that the Montana Pilot Association's Committee for Aeronautics Division Revenue Increase is continuing to meet. The group has requested much information from the Aeronautics Division and is entertaining several ideas for increasing Division funding with the most favorable being a user fee increase on aviation fuel.

Jerry Burrows reported on the Yellowstone Airport construction project and Airport Manager Jeff Heaney briefed the Board on this season's airport tenants and operations.

Ron Mercer, Helena Airport Manager, reported on the selection of Helena for the Regional Burn-Pit Facility. Phase I construction of the facility is expected to begin May 1993. In a unanimous decision the Board took action to continue its support of the facility.

Other activity included a report on the Department's strategic planning process and an informal discussion with the West Yellowstone Mayor and the West Yellowstone Airport Advisory Board.

The next meeting of the Montana Aeronautics Board is scheduled for November 6, 1992, at Helena. The public is welcome to attend.

Aviation Awareness Art Contest Winners Announced

Winners of the 1992 Aviation Awareness Art Contest and their parents were flown to Helena and honored during an awards ceremony on June 12 conducted by Secretary of State Mike Cooney.

The Aviation Awareness Art Contest is designed to increase student awareness regarding career opportunities in the field of aviation/aerospace and to broaden their knowledge of the importance of aviation/aerospace.

Winners are: Amy Burger, Helena, Category III (grades 9-12); Jordan Benavides, Kalispell, Category II (grades 5-8); and Matt Russell, Condon, Category I (grades 1-4). Matt's younger brother Kirk was the third place winner in Category III.

Winners received a framed certificate of achievement along with an engraved trophy.

Amy Burger as winner of Category III is the recipient of tuition to the annual Experimental Aircraft Association Air Academy

See **WINNERS**, page 5



Pictured are Gordon Brandes, Northwest Airlines, Amy Burger, and Secretary of State Mike Cooney. Amy proudly accepts her winnings, including the complimentary airline ticket from Northwest Airlines.

Administrator's Column

Condolences to Fred Hasskamp: In response to the many inquiries I have received from friends of Fred Hasskamp expressing concern over the condition of Fred's wife Jan, I would like to let you know that she passed away on July 2nd. Jan unsuccessfully fought a long and courageous battle with cancer. I know you all join me in passing our condolences to Fred and his sons Jim and Jeff.



FAA's MLS Losing User Support: The International Business Aviation Council (IBAC) has withdrawn their organization's support for the Microwave Landing System (MLS) except for extreme limited circumstances. The IBAC has joined most all industry organizations including airlines in opposing full implementation of MLS program because the FAA's MLS program is a decade behind schedule and modern day technology in the Global Navigation Satellite System has far surpassed the capabilities of the FAA's MLS in both cost effectiveness and capabilities.



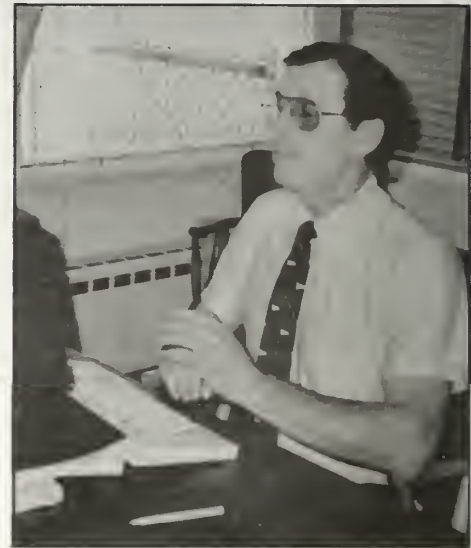
New FAA Administrator Confirmed: The U.S. Senate has approved the nomination of Thomas Richards as the new FAA Administrator. Acting FAA Administrator Barry Harris will return to his position as Deputy FAA Administrator. Richards rose from the enlisted ranks and retired as a USAF Four Star General and is a veteran military pilot having served in Vietnam.



New NTSB Chairman Confirmed: The U.S. Senate has confirmed Carl W. Vogt as a member and Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board. Vogt replaces "Montana's" Jim Kolstad whose term expired last December 31 but has continued as Chairman until Vogt's nomination.



FAA Puts Mode S On Hold: The FAA has rescinded its requirements for Mode S transponders to be installed in General Aviation Part 91 airplanes by July 1, 1992. The General Aviation industry had strongly opposed this requirement mainly because they felt it senseless to install the expensive equipment when they know the FAA does not have the necessary ground sensing equipment to make the Mode S transponders functional. In rescinding the requirement, the FAA admitted that they would not have the required equipment in place until late 1995 and that it will not be necessary to have Mode S transponders until such time.



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Essential Air Service Task Force Meets

The Governor's Essential Air Service Task Force met July 14 at Billings.

The task force consists of representatives from each of the eight communities served by Big Sky Airlines, the essential air service air carrier. The group voted that a request be made to the U.S. Department of Transportation for an all Metroliner fleet to serve Montana. Currently Big Sky Airlines operates both Metroliners and Cessna 402s.

In other action the task force voted unanimously that Great Falls not be considered a hub location for Havre. At the present time the communities desire no change in its present service pattern.

Visit the Yellowstone Airport

By: **Gerald C. Burrows**

Chief Airport/Airways Bureau

Skywest Airlines (the Delta Connection) station manager Bonnie Wann welcomes you to fly Skywest to visit Yellowstone National Park only two miles from the airport. While there visit West Yellowstone and the many attractions, outdoor activities, wildlife, lodging, etc. that the surrounding area offers. Three daily flights should fit into your schedule. The Brasilia 30-passenger aircraft offers in-flight service including stand-up headroom, lavatories, additional baggage capacity and the increased safety and service provided by flight attendants. Call (406)646-7351 for information.

Upon arriving at the Yellowstone Airport you can easily complete your travel plans while dining at the remodeled Airport Cafe operated by Dave Powell. Dave offers a simple but delicious menu featuring daily specials (road kill of the day, just kiddin'

Dave!) and a variety of the most called for selections. Open from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily.

Many local guest ranches are featured in the advertising displays at the airport as well as direct telephone connection with many prominent motels. Avis - 646-7635, National - 646-7670, and Budget - 646-7882, can provide transportation to the Park or local sightseeing.

Our fixed based operator, Yellowstone Aviation can handle the needs, parking, fuel, etc. for corporate and private aircraft, large or small. Call the crew at 646-7359. A free pilot campground is available for those on a limited budget or wanting to avoid the hubbub of downtown West Yellowstone.

Call our airport management at 646-7631 for any other assistance



Dave Powell



Bonnie Wann

Calendar

July 31—August 2: MAAA Fly-in, Three Forks.

July 31—August 6: 40th Annual Experimental Aircraft Association Convention and Fly-in, Oshkosh, WI.

August 8: Mission Valley Fly-in, Polson Airport. Sponsored by Mission Mtn. Aviation, Inc. and MAAA; food and more.

August 14—15: Organizational Meeting Montana Seaplane Pilots Association. Unicom 122.9Mhz. Register at Lindey's Landing West, Seeley Lake. Call Lindey at 677-9229 for information and/or pre-registration form.

August 15—16: Southwest Montana Fly-in, Anaconda 8/15 —Ennis 8/16.

August 16: Seeley Lake Seniors "Woodsman Breakfast", Great Falls Sectional. Free transportation to/from airport, 0800 - 1130, unicom 122.9 Mhz. Seeley Lake.

August 23: Harlowton Breakfast Fly-in, all you can eat. Call Will Morse 632-4545.

Sept. 5—7: Labor Day Fly-in, Yellowstone Airport, West Yellowstone.

Sept. 11—13: MPA Fall Fly-in, Glasgow.

Sept. 17—20: 29th Annual Reno Air Races, Stead Airport, Reno.

Sept. 18—20: Mountain Search Pilot Clinic, Kalispell.

Sept. 26: AOM Board Meeting, Helena. Sept. 26 - 27 - Columbus Discovery Celebration and Fly-in, Columbus.

Oct. 6—12: National Aviation Education Week.

Nov. 6: Montana Aeronautics Board Meeting, Helena.

Feb. 5—7, 1993: Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic, Helena.

Feb. 24—27, 1993: Montana Aviation Conference, Holiday Inn, Missoula.

March 1—3, 1993: Upper Midwest Aviation Symposium, Bismarck, North Dakota.

Operation Coast to Coast

James A. Damron, of Columbus, will be flying non-stop coast to coast from Santa Maria, CA, (where Jim took his private flight test in a J-3), to Brunswick, GA in his 1949 Piper PA-18-95, Super-Cub. This has been an ambition and dream of Jim's since he learned to fly in 1956. At the age of 16, Jim, "ran all the numbers" and was convinced that with some "minor" modifications a non-stop, coast to coast flight could be made in a J-3 Cub.

Modifications to the airplane include increasing fuel and oil capacity and providing battery powered navigation lights. An engine driven fuel pump will be installed to pump fuel from a belly tank to the left wing tank where it will gravity feed to the engine. The back seat tank will gravity feed to the belly tank. At the rate of 6 gallons of fuel per hour, endurance will be approximately 26 hours with 166 gallons of fuel. Given a nominal 90 to 100 statute miles per hour the airplane should have coast to coast range even without prevailing westerly winds.

The airplane is in the Experimental R&D category for this project and will remain within CG limits. All engineering, modification, and FAA liaison is under the supervision of Allen Rickman A&P, Rickman Aviation, Columbus.

The flight is scheduled to take place on September 11, in order to enjoy mild



weather and maximum daylight. A mid-morning takeoff from Santa Maria will insure daylight passage over the mountains with crossing of the flat country at night. Landing in Brunswick, will be mid-morning the following day. The airplane is named "The Stillwater Express" after Stillwater County where the flight celebrates the 500th anniversary of Columbus Day.

The "Stillwater Express" is planning to return to Columbus on September 26 as part of the Columbus Discovery Celebration and Fly-in.

The C-90-8 (the very same engine delivered in this airplane in 1949) has no electrical system and none will be installed. Neither radio navigation nor radio communication equipment will be aboard. Navigation will be by pilotage, a method that must be demonstrated by all private pilots on their practical test.

Best of luck to you Jim on this adventure. We will be anxious to hear your story when you return as the fully sanctioned National Aeronautic Association, point to point, coast to coast, speed record holder!

Hand-built airplanes gather in Kalispell

Members of the Meyers Aircraft Owners Association gathered in Kalispell from all over the United States for the Meyers Annual Fly-in. About 20 Meyers airplanes attended, that is nearly one-third of 68 such airplanes that still fly.

Meyers were built by hand in a small Michigan factory. In the late 1960s, they were driven out of the market by cheaper, mass-produced planes.

The six-cylinder, 285-horsepower engine sends the plane along at 200 mph. With a 1,100-mile range you can fly from Kalispell to California in four hours non-stop.

In Kalispell, the club swapped lore about the planes, had navigation contests and compared machines. The club has about 150 members, although many do not own the aircraft.



One of the rare Myers aircraft that arrived at Kalispell for the annual fly-in.

Antique Air Tour A Success

The weather conditions were beautiful as the tour left Chico Hot Springs for Cody, WY, with stops at Red Lodge for fuel and Greybull, WY for a tour of the Hawkins Powers Museum and the aircraft firefighting modification center. After overnighing in Cody, the tour headed to Laurel where they toured Oscar's Dreamland, east of Laurel. Sheridan, WY was the next stop following lunch at Oscar's.

The next day brought the group to Colstrip where they toured Montana Power's power generating facilities and enjoyed lunch hosted by the Colstrip MPA. After lunch Rock Springs was the destination with refreshments served at a community pot-luck gathering and then off to Beacon Star Antique Airfield at Moore where Frank Bass served dinner.



The Montana Antique Air Association (MAAA) conducted its annual air tour and meeting, June 17-21 beginning at Chico Hot Springs. The tour was organized by Al Bentley and Bod Redding who were complimented and thanked for a wonderful event and a job well done!



Lanny Hanson, Glasgow, listens as Ray Sanders, MAAA President and Darlene Sanders, MAAA Secretary of Kalispell, conduct a meeting before ending an enjoyable tour. Lanny Hanson and Frank Bass were elected co-chairs of the event for 1993.



Before returning home, Frank Bass prepared his world-famous sourdough pancakes for members.



Mike Ferguson studies the competition in the swimming pool follow-the-leader contest.....did he complete that double back-flip?

WINNERS, from page 1

held in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Tuition for the academy came from donations by the Montana aviation community collected at the 1992 Montana Aviation Conference and from the Montana Airport Managers Association (MAMA).

Burger received a complimentary round-trip airline ticket from Northwest Airlines to attend the academy. As always, Northwest Airlines continues to support Montana's youth and their interest in the wonderful world of aviation.



Jordan Benavides (l) and Kirk Russell (r) are presented a trophy and certificate by Mike Cooney, Secretary of State.



Yellowstone Fly-in

By: Gerald C. Burrows
Chief Airport/Airways Bureau

A fly-in is planned from September 5—7; (Labor Day) on the Yellowstone Airport.

Fred Hasskamp, Chief, Safety and Education Bureau, will provide a Density Altitude Clinic. There will be prizes for various aircraft categories and free camping for pilots. Be sure to try our new portable heated shower—it's just like home except airier.

Special meals are being arranged, and depending on the response, a fly casting course will be conducted on the airport or in town. Did I say prizes?

Cars are available from: Budget, 646-7882; National, 646-7670; and Avis, 646-7635. Flights can be arranged through Skywest Airlines and Yellowstone Aviation. There's also a cafe on the field.

Other area attractions include: an interagency fire control center and smoke jumper base—if they're not fighting fires; square dancers from across the nation at the annual Knothead Jamboree in West; and West Yellowstone and Yellowstone Park for an enjoyable break.

The number for West Yellowstone motels is 800-521-5241, or write for a complete list. Motels that support the airport are:

Ambassador Quality Inn: 646-7365

Brandin' Iron Motel & RV Park:
646-9411

StarLite Motel: 646-7656

Stage Coach Inn: 646-7381

Madison Hotel: 646-7745

Super 8 Lodge: 646-9584

For more information, call Montana Aeronautics at 444-2506, or Yellowstone Airport at 646-7631.

Flying Farmers Meet



The summer meeting of the Montana Flying Farmers (MFF) was held June 6, at Jim and Marilyn Lewis', northwest of Lewistown. A tour of the Lewis' new residence was included.



John Green of Nanton, Alberta whisks the homemade ice-cream as his assistant Peggy Boesch, Bigfork looks on.



Woody Boesch, President of MFF and Jim Lewis headed up the bar-b-que detail. A superb lunch was enjoyed by all!



The group is attentive as Don Newton, Newton Aviation of Lewistown, explains the operation of his aerial applicator aircraft.

Attention: Montana Airstrip Owners

The Montana Aeronautics Division is compiling the necessary data to complete the new 1993 Aeronautical Chart. All private airstrip owners are requested to fill out the following questionnaire. If your airstrip is already depicted on our most current chart and if we do not hear from you, we will assume that the information we already have is correct. Also, please let us know if your airstrip is inactive so that we may delete it from our next edition.

We have had a legal opinion that indicated an airstrip clearly depicted as being restricted and 1) privately owned; 2) not for public use; 3) having possible unreported hazards; 4) user assumes all risk; and 5) prior permission required will have less liability on the owner than one not shown on the chart, but clearly visible from the air and identifiable as an airstrip and, therefore could possibly be considered an invitation for public use.

Mail to: Aeronautical Chart Revisions
 Montana Aeronautics Division
 Box 5178
 Helena, MT 59604

Privately Owned Airstrip Location

Name of Airstrip _____

Name of Owner _____

Owner's Mailing Address _____

Owner's Phone Number _____

Airstrip Location

Latitude _____ Longitude _____ County _____

Nearest Town _____ Direction _____ Miles _____

Does your airstrip serve as a community's only airport? Yes _____ No _____

Is your airstrip open to the public? Yes _____ No _____

Do you carry public airport liability insurance? Yes _____ No _____

Comments _____

Airstrip Data

Runway Direction	Length	Width	Approach Obstructions & Distances
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_____	_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____	_____
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Airport Elevation _____ Unicom Radio? Yes _____ No _____

Fuel Available? Yes _____ No _____ Octane? _____ Emergency Only _____

Telephone Available? Yes _____ No _____ Phone Number _____

Airstrip Owner's Signature _____

FAA Issues Certificates

Student

James Moore Belgrade

Private

Kevin Holgard Great Falls
Kristin Machacek Libby
Robert Muth Kalispell
Shannon Rittberger Miles City
William Rose Bozeman
William Rust Clancy

Instrument

Thomas Goetz Billings
Alfred Koelzer Billings
Jon McNulty Billings
Dwight Moose Helena

MEL VFR

James Heppner Dutton

SA-227

Thomas Nopper Bozeman

Multi-Engine

Todd Breum Billings
Mark Benner Billings

Rotorcraft Helicopter

Harold Halliburton Helena

Advanced Ground Instructor

Roy Toavs Wolf Point

CFI - Renew

Arthur Hansen Clinton
David Healow Billings
Theodore Kopp Glendive
Gale Nayematsu Billings
Joseph Scott Billings
Michael Thelen Glasgow
Rick Trebas Great Falls

CFI - New

Leroy Anderson Billings

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